This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:

identifying hosts present within a local network;

providing a list of available features for at least one host within said local network;

receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;

analyzing by an agent if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host; and

assigning an IP address to said at least one host by said agent, wherein a static IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said static IP address is assigned from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a pool of available dynamic addresses.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said list is provided in a graphical user interface.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said selected feature is capable of being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said assigning of said IP address is in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: returning said static IP address to a pool of available IP addresses if said selected feature requiring said static IP address is disabled.

8. (Original) A program of instruction storable on a medium readable by an information handling system to execute steps for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, the steps comprising:

identifying hosts present within a local network; providing a list of available features for at least one host within said local network;

receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;

analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host; and

assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

9. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned to said at least one host if selected feature does not require said static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host.

10. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 9, wherein said static IP address is assigned from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a pool of available dynamic addresses.

11. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein said list is provided in a graphical user interface.

12. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 11, wherein said selected feature is capable of being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

13. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein said assigning of said IP address is in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

14. (Original) The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, further comprising: returning said static IP address to a pool of available IP addresses if said selected feature requiring said static IP address is disabled.

15. (Original) In a local network of one or more one hosts, a system for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:

means for identifying the hosts present within the local network;

means for providing a list of available features for at least one host within the local network;

means for receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;

means for analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host; and

means for assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

16. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host.

17. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said static IP address is assigned from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a pool of available dynamic addresses.

18. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said list is provided in a graphical user interface.

19. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein said selected feature is capable of being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

20. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said assigning means operates in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

21. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 15, further comprising: means for returning said static IP address to a pool of available addresses if said selected feature requiring said static IP address is disabled.

22. (Original) In a local network of one or more hosts, a system for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to said processor, wherein said memory is capable of storing a list of available features for at least one host within the local network;

a display coupled to said processor, wherein said display is capable of providing said list of available features to a user;

an input device coupled to said processor, wherein said input device is capable of receiving a selection by said user of one of said available features from said list; and

logic capable of being executed by the processor, wherein said logic is capable of identifying hosts present within a local network, analyzing if said feature selected by said user requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host, and assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

23. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host.

24. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 23, wherein said static IP address is assigned from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a pool of available dynamic addresses.

25. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said list is provided in a graphical user interface on said display.

26. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 25, wherein said selected feature is capable of being selected by said user utilizing said graphical user interface.

27. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said IP address is assigned in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

28. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 22, said logic is further capable of returning said static IP address to a pool of available addresses of said selected feature requiring said static IP address is disabled.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address is performed automatically.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address is performed without user intervention.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of available features includes blocking access to the Internet from said at least one host.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of available features includes designating said at least one host as a demilitarized zone (DMZ) host.